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May 6, 2014

## **Gang Member Pleads No Contest to Voluntary Manslaughter in Slayings of Two Boys in Highland Park**

A 23-year-old gang member pleaded no contest today to two counts of voluntary manslaughter for the deaths of two teenage boys near a Highland Park recreation area in 2009, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Felix Gomez Jr. entered his plea before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Craig Richman and also admitted gang allegations. Gomez is expected to be sentenced to 21 years in state prison when he returns to court May 8.

Deputy District Attorney Amy Ashvanian of the Hardcore Gang Division said a fight broke out between a group of people and 14-year-old Carlos Hernandez and 15-year-old Alejandro Garcia on March 13, 2009. Gomez then shot and killed both boys, the prosecutor said.

Gomez, who was 17 years old when the crime occurred, is a documented member of the "Dogtown" gang and goes by the nickname "Shorty," prosecutors said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department's Northeast Division.

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### **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.